

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the telephone interview on September 13, 2004. Applicants' representative discussed the independent claims and the cited references with the Examiner. Pursuant to the discussion in the interview, Applicants have canceled independent claims 4-10 and 14-20. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 11-13 will be pending after entry of this Amendment.

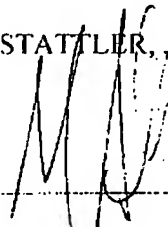
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims, namely claims 1-3 and 11-13, are in condition for allowance. Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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